

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 10260.0006-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Office the listed documents on the attached PTO SB/08 Form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed foreign patent document DE 10 2006 012 866 is enclosed. With respect to the disclosure of that document, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2009/0118524 A1 and foreign patent document WO 2007/107260 A1, both of record in this application and for which copies are accordingly not enclosed, are believed to correspond thereto as they belong to the same patent family.

Applicants respectfully request that the Office consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Office applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 30, 2009

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